



Department News

New Grants:

Evan Carson (sole P.I.) Research Assistant Professor in Biology, was recently awarded two new grants. He received \$17,702 from the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish in late 2014 for his project entitled "Assessment of mtDNA and nuclear DNA introgression in Pecos pupfish in New Mexico." His second grant in the amount of \$19,650 entitled "Genetic contribution of four sucker species to larval drift in experimental and control streams of the Gunnison River basin in Colorado" is funded by Colorado Parks and Wildlife. Both grants run through June 30, 2015.

Richard Cripps (sole P.I.) Professor of Biology, has successfully renewed his Ro1 grant award from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences, of the National Institutes of Health. The award, entitled "Genetic Regulation of Muscle Fiber Diversity" will use the *Drosophila* model system to define mechanisms of skeletal muscle diversification in the body. The total award is \$1,261,373 for four years.

Irene Salinas (sole P.I.) Assistant Professor of Biology, received a total award of \$490,000 for three years from the United States Department of Agriculture, National Institute of Food and Agriculture, for her proposal entitled "New mucosal vaccines for aquaculture: intranasal vaccines for finfish."

Biologists Aid NASA in Exploring the Universe

David Hanson, Professor of Biology, is part of a consortium led by Regents Professor, Norman Lewis, Washington State University, which was selected by NASA for a space station project. This is a 2 phase process. If phase 1, the flight definition phase, proves to be successful, then the balance of the award will be distributed for phase 2. The total award is \$2M; a portion of that will come to the Biology Department. Sixteen proposals were selected as part of two NASA coordinated research announcements, the Human Research Program's (HRP) "Human Exploration Research Opportunities—International Life Sciences Research Announcement" and Space Biology's "Research Opportunities for Flight Experiments in Space Biology (ILSRA). The project will be funded for up to three years. To learn more about these projects, please use the following link: <http://www.nasa.gov/content/new-research-headed-to-station-helping-nasa-explore-the-universe>

Alumna News:

Heather Bateman, a former P.H.D. student in the Biology Department (2007) and currently an Associate Professor, Department of Applied Sciences and Mathematics, College of Technology and Innovation, Arizona State University, recently received the Arizona Chapter of The Wildlife Society's Professional Service Award. This award is given to an Arizona biologist for outstanding contributions to management and conservation of wildlife. For more information and a picture of Heather please see her webpage: <https://webapp4.asu.edu/directory/person/1266031>

